



cc: Paul  
M/047/064

## United States Department of the Interior

### BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

Utah State Office  
P.O. Box 45155  
Salt Lake City, UT 84145-0155  
<http://www.blm.gov>



IN REPLY REFER TO:  
3590  
UTU-72699  
(UT-920)

FEB 28 2006

CERTIFIED MAIL--Return Receipt Requested

Mr. James Lekas  
Lexco, Inc.  
P.O. Box 1198  
582 North Vernal Avenue  
Vernal, Utah 84078

Re: Additional clarifications on the 3 shaft mining plan modification dated 9/1/2004,  
Federal Gilsonite Lease UTU-72699

Dear Mr. Lekas:

#### Modification of Mining Plan

**Background-** The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) Utah State Office, received comments from the Utah Division of Oil, Gas and Mining (DOGM) on your plan and asked that they be addressed. BLM and DOGM have worked hard on narrowing the scope of the comments. The resolution of these comments can be placed on the Addendum page of the plan.

#### Comments-

1. Page 6 states that the sites will be ripped or disked prior to final reclamation. Page 11 states that the sites will be ripped prior to reclamation. This discrepancy needs correction. BLM and DOGM prefer the language on page 11.
2. Figure 3 shows the location of the escapeways located at the site. Please describe how these areas will be accessed during final closure to close these openings. A statement about overland access will be sufficient.

RECEIVED

MAR 01 2006

DIV. OF OIL, GAS & MINING



3. In consultation with DOGM, BLM would recommend the seed mix for top soil pile stabilization be modified to be.

- 3 lb/ac crested wheat grass
- 3 lb/ac shadscale (*Atriplex confertifolia*)
- 3 lb/ac western wheat grass (*Pascopyrum smithii* (Rydb.) A. Löve)
- 3 lb/ac squirrel tail grass (*Elymus elymoides* (Sitanion hystrix))

In lieu of the following that is in the plan

- 1 lb./acre Wyoming Big sage (*Artemisia tridentata* ssp. *wyomingensis*)
- 3 lb./acre Shadscale (*Atriplex confertifolia*)
- 4 lb./acre Indian Ricegrass (*Achnatherum hymenoides* formerly *Oryzopsis hymenoides*)
- 4 lb./acre Scarlet globemallow (*Sphaeralcea coccinea*)

In lieu of determining the seeding plan for reclamation at this time, BLM would prefer that the Lessee commit to obtain a final recommended seed mix prior to reclamation from the Authorized Officer of BLM. All other requirements including but not limited to the noxious weed free and Pure Live Seed (PLS) requirements would remain the same.

4. BLM is under the understanding the Shaft #5 will not need a mechanized hoist for escape because there most likely will be a Shaft #6 when that point in time will come. If this is incorrect this will need to be added to the plan.

5. BLM will send a copy of the approved plan for shaft #1 and #2 to DOGM.

For further information contact Mr. Stan Perkes, (801) 539-4036.

Sincerely,

JAMES F KOHLER

James F. Kohler  
Chief, Solid Minerals Branch

bcc: Vernal Field Office  
Utah Division of Oil, Gas, and Mining (Attn. Paul Baker) P.O. Box 145801, Salt Lake  
City, Utah, 84114-5801  
Mine Files - UTU-72699